Growth of software industries

729. SHRI T.T.V DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of companies registered with the Software Technology Parks of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that STPI has cancelled the registration of nearly 3000 technology units;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether such decisions would not affect the growth of software industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As on 31.03.2004, 8180 units were registered under Software Technology Park (STP) scheme. The list of these units is available at Website http:// www.stpi.soft.net in pdf format.

(b) and (c) As per the Exim Policy, the Letter of Permission is valid for three years from its date of issue within which the unit should implement the project and commence production and would automatically lapse if an application for extension of validity is not made before the end of the said period. Accordingly, an intensive review of non-operational units which were registered up to March, 2000 has been carried out and the registration of 2803 units which did not commence operation had since lapsed.

(d) No, Sir.

Collection of USO levy fund from operators

730. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a USO levy is being collected from various operators;

(b) if so, the amount of money collected so far, year-wise and the other details arising thereof;